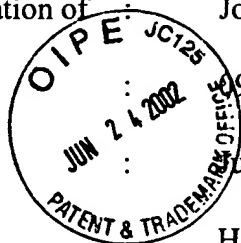


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of John CRESCENTI et al.

Serial No.



09/354,058

Examiner:

Ella Colbert

Filed

July 15, 1999

Group Art Unit:

2172

Title

HIERARCHICAL BACKUP AND RETRIEVAL  
SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

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JUL 08 2002

Technology Center 2100

This is in response to the Office Action received January 17, 2002

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 20-30 as follows:

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GROUP 3600

20. A backup and retrieval system for a network computing system, the  
network computing system comprising a plurality of network devices storing data, the  
backup and retrieval system comprising:

a plurality of backup cells comprising:

a backup device executing a backup of the data stored on at least one  
of the plurality of network devices;

a management component, residing on and configured to execute on  
any network device and communicatively coupled to at least one backup device, for  
controlling the backup of the data to the backup device; and

06/28/2002 MBERHE 00000068 09354058

01 FC:203  
02 FC:202

90.00 OP  
126.00 OP